INFORMATION PAPER

J1-Army-ESO 16 Apr 04

SUBJECT: The Effect of Mobilization on ARNG Education Benefits

1. Purpose. To provide an overview of the effect a mobilization has on ARNG education benefits.

2. Facts:

- a. <u>MGIB Overview</u>. ARNG soldiers who are mobilized, remain eligible for the Montgomery G.I. Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR), Chapter 1606, Title 10, United States Code (USC) or the Montgomery G.I. Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD), Chapter 30, Title 38, USC, if they were entitled to the benefit <u>prior to the mobilization</u>.
- b. <u>MGIB-SR Extension</u>. ARNG soldiers who are eligible for the MGIB-SR who are federally mobilized for 1 day or more will get the period of the mobilization plus 4 months added to their MGIB-SR benefit after the mobilization. To get the additional time added, soldiers must send a copy of their DD Form 214 to their Department of Veteran's Administration (DVA) Regional Processing Office (RPO) and request the extension.
- c. <u>MGIB-AD Extension</u>. ARNG soldiers who are eligible for the MGIB-AD (regardless if their original 10 year delimiting period has expired or not) who are federally mobilized and serve 90 continuous days or more (there are some exceptions for less than 90 days) will have a new 10 year delimiting period established at the point of their latest discharge from active duty. To have the new delimiting period established, soldiers must send a copy of their DD Form 214 to their DVA RPO and request a determination of their new eligibility period.
- d. <u>PLUS UP- Additional Contribution</u>. ARNG soldiers who are eligible for the MGIB-AD who are federally mobilized for 1 day or more are eligible to add up to \$600 to their MGIB-AD account and receive up to an additional \$5,400 in benefits. Soldiers who converted to MGIB-AD from the Old GI Bill (Chapter 34) or from VEAP may not make the additional contributions. To contribute the additional funds, soldiers must work with their State ARNG Education Office or Army Education Office while still on active duty or shortly thereafter, and complete a DD Form 2366-1 and submit the additional funds to their servicing finance office using a "Cash Collection Voucher". It is imperative that the DD 2366-1 and copy of "Cash Collection Voucher" be forwarded to respective ARNG State Education Office so they can input the transactions in the ARNG personnel systems. Member should also maintain copy of both the DD 2366-1 and Cash Collection Voucher for submission/evidence when applying to use their benefits with the US Dept of Veterans Affairs and/or school.
- e. <u>MGIB-AD Enrollment</u>. ARNG soldiers who are federally mobilized (who first entered active duty after 7/1/85) and serve for at least 2 years of continuous active duty may qualify for the MGIB-AD program. These soldiers should consult with their State ARNG Education Services Office or Army Education Office prior to coming off of active duty or shortly thereafter to verify their eligibility and pay the required \$1,200 contribution and complete DD 2366. These soldiers are also eligible to contribute the additional \$600 contribution (PLUS UP). Either transaction must be processed through members' respective ARNG Education Office for input into the ARNG personnel data systems.
- f. <u>Tuition Assistance Enlisted</u>. ARNG enlisted soldiers who are federally mobilized are not eligible for ARNG Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) but are eligible for Army Continuing Education Service (ACES) Tuition Assistance (TA) available from their servicing active Army Education Center. <u>Exceptions</u>: 1) If ARNG member is enrolled in school and ARNG FTA has already been authorized for the current session and member is subsequently mobilized (member elects to remain in classes), then ARNG may pay for that semester, but not follow-on courses while mobilized. 2) If a mobilized ARNG member enrolls in courses, but ACES denies active Army TA because enlisted member does not have sufficient active duty service obligation remaining prior to course end date; then, ARNG FTA may be authorized. 3) All other cases require NGB-ARM-PR (Education) FTA program manager approval.
- g. <u>Tuition Assistance Officers</u>. ARNG officers who are federally mobilized remain eligible for ARNG FTA because they may not be eligible for ACES TA due to the required 2-year active duty service obligation incurred after using ACES TA (from course end date).

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